



January 26, 2007

SENATE BILL No. 351

DIGEST OF SB 351 (Updated January 24, 2007 11:43 am - DI 106)

Citations Affected: IC 34-18.

Synopsis: Medical review panel. Authorizes the chairperson of the medical review panel to convene the panel, and permits a member of the panel to participate by telephone or teleconferencing under certain conditions.

Effective: July 1, 2007.

Steele

January 11, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Judiciary.
January 25, 2007, amended, reported favorably — Do Pass.

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SB 351—LS 6791/DI 106+



January 26, 2007

First Regular Session 115th General Assembly (2007)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2006 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 351

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning civil procedure.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 34-18-10-20 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2007]: Sec. 20. (a) Either party, **or**
3 **the chairperson**, after submission of all evidence and upon ten (10)
4 days notice to the other side, has the right to convene the panel at a
5 time and place agreeable to the members of the panel. **Except as**
6 **provided in subsection (c), the panel shall convene in person.** Either
7 party may question the panel concerning any matters relevant to issues
8 to be decided by the panel before the issuance of the panel's report.
9 (b) The ~~chairman~~ **chairperson** of the panel shall preside at all
10 meetings. Meetings shall be informal.
11 (c) **The panel shall make every effort to meet in person.**
12 **However, if:**
13 (1) **the panel has made two (2) attempts to convene in person;**
14 (2) **the panel has been unable to convene in person; and**
15 (3) **the chairperson determines that the personal attendance**
16 **of a member of the panel is impracticable or would impose a**
17 **hardship on a member;**

SB 351—LS 6791/DI 106+



- 1 the chairperson may permit a member to participate by telephone
- 2 or by electronic teleconferencing.

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COMMITTEE REPORT

Madam President: The Senate Committee on Judiciary, to which was referred Senate Bill No. 351, has had the same under consideration and begs leave to report the same back to the Senate with the recommendation that said bill be AMENDED as follows:

Page 1, line 2, after "party," insert "**or the chairperson,**".

Page 1, line 5, delete "However, if the chairman" and insert "**Except as provided in subsection (c), the panel shall convene in person.**".

Page 1, delete lines 6 through 8.

Page 1, line 12, strike "chairman" and insert "**chairperson**".

Page 1, after line 13, begin a new paragraph and insert:

"(c) The panel shall make every effort to meet in person.

However, if:

- (1) the panel has made two (2) attempts to convene in person;**
- (2) the panel has been unable to convene in person; and**
- (3) the chairperson determines that the personal attendance of a member of the panel is impracticable or would impose a hardship on a member;**

the chairperson may permit a member to participate by telephone or by electronic teleconferencing."

and when so amended that said bill do pass.

(Reference is to SB 351 as introduced.)

BRAY, Chairperson

Committee Vote: Yeas 10, Nays 0.

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